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NOTES AND NEWS.

THE 26th meeting of the association was held in Teachers College, Columbia University, New York City, Saturday, May 13, 1916. A slight departure from the usual sectional divisions of the program was made. In the morning two interesting reports were given on the Geometry Committee and the Committee on Status of Mathematics respectively. Following these were reports on A Survey by Districts of Recent Criticism of Mathematics Teaching, given by representatives from all parts of the states covered by our association. These reports proved to be most interesting and instructive.

The afternoon program was prepared and conducted by the New York Section and was on the subject of Graphs. Their uses in engineering, chemistry and business were set forth in a most interesting and convincing manner. Various exhibits of graphic work by members of the New York Section were inspected with considerable interest by those present.

PROFESSOR Em. Mougin, President de l'Association amicale des Lycées de Roanne (France), will be pleased to forward to any mathematical teacher (member of our association) a specimen copy of:

1. New Tables of Logarithms with 5 decimals (English edition): Logs of Numbers from 1 to 10,000; Logs of sin, cos, tgs, cotgs from 0 to 100 grades; logs of sin, cos, tgs, cotgs from 0 to 90 degrees; natural lines (0 to 100 grades); natural lines (0 to 90 degrees); supplement and use of the tables;

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pages), the most up-to-date (centesimal division: logs and natural lines). Most complimentary testimonials from well-known scientists such as: Professor Laisant, Ecole Polytechnique, Paris; Fehr, Geneva University; Poincaré, of the French Board of Education; Vessist, Paris University; Father Lefebvre, Louvain University; Fontseré, Barcelona University; Chailan and Nau, Catholic University, Paris; Gasco, Valencia University; Canon Stoffaës, Catholic University, Lille; Ségre, Turin University; Gréard, Paris Academy; Compayré, Lyons Academy, Papelier, Orleans; Mansion, Antwerp, etc.

THE spring meeting of the Philadelphia Section of the Association of Teachers of Mathematics in the Middle States and Maryland was held in the Germantown High School, April 18, 1916.

A brief business meeting was held at which the following officers were elected: President—Dr. Jacob B. Krause, Central High School; Vice-President—Mr. Charles H. Strout, St. Luke's School; Secretary—Miss Ruth Munhall, Germantown High School; Member of Executive Committee—Mr. H. Ross Smith, Southern High School; Representative to the General Association—Dr. George Gailey Chambers, University of Pennsylvania.

The program which followed was one of great interest; the title given was "An Experience Meeting" and seven people gave some of their experiences, which proved most profitable to the rest. The seven speakers were: Mr. Jacoby, Mr. Smith, Miss Depue, Mr. Zeiber, Mr. Brecht, Mr. Moyer, and Mr. Fitch.

It was suggested that a system for marking papers be adopted so that the pupil could in no way change her paper and, returning it, ask for a higher mark. The system suggested was one of lines, which would tell at a glance how much was subtracted for any mistakes made. Likewise from two experiences related, we found that grave trouble may arise if we permit parents to cause us to change the pupil's marks ever so slightly, for if any change can be made then is it possible, according to one parent, to change any mark, even to bring an absolute zero up to a passing mark. The moral of these two experiences was—take a firm

stand and change not. The last experience related caused quite a heated discussion. A method for factoring a trinomial of the form $ax^2 + bx + c$ was given, which, in the mind of the speaker, lessened the chances of the pupil's going astray. Exception was taken to this, the claim being made that no matter which way it was factored it was a guess problem and so long as one had to guess one might as well do it first as last. Before the meeting could agree as to which way the factoring should be taught the time came for adjournment and the question was left unsettled.

THERE has recently been issued in pamphlet form an extract from the last will and testament of Professor Mittag-Leffler and his wife, this will having been made on March 16, 1916, Professor Mittag-Leffler's seventieth birthday. It seems that by the terms of this will the testators have established a mathematical

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institute to bear the name of the donors. This institute will be housed in the villa now occupied by Professor Mittag-Leffler at Djursholm, Stockholm. The object is to establish a foundation which shall assist in the development of pure mathematics in the four Scandinavian countries of Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Norway, but more especially of Sweden.

The terms of the will provide for awarding financial aid to students who give particular promise in the field of pure mathematics, and also to award medals and prizes for noteworthy achievements. So far as possible the prizes will consist of a gold medal, and of sets of the *Acta Mathematica*. These will be bestowed personally at the institute, and will be the occasion of a formal ceremony.

Provision is made for the appointment of a director and a committee, which shall have charge of the foundation. Every

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six years or less there will be a formal meeting at which the mathematicians of the four Scandinavian countries will assist.

There has been issued also a sumptuous volume giving a complete catalogue of the magnificent library of Professor Mittag-Leffler, which library will be deposited in the institute and become available for students from all parts of the world. There has hardly appeared anything so sumptuous in the way of a mathematical bibliography, and the volume will be sought for by all mathematical bibliophiles.

The founding of this institute is one of the most noteworthy acts for the encouragement of mathematics that has yet been recorded in the history of the subject.

The American Mathematical Monthly

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FROM YEAR TO YEAR.

HENRY VAN DYKE.

Let me but live my life from year to year,
 With forward face and unreluctant soul
 Not hastening to, nor turning from, the goal;
 Not mourning for the things that disappear
 In the dim past, nor holding back in fear
 From what the future veils, but with a whole
 And happy heart, that pays its toll
 To Youth and Age, and travels on with cheer.

So let the way wind up the hill or down,
 Through rough or smooth, the journey will be joy,
 Still seeking what I sought when but a boy,
 New friendship, high adventure, and a crown.
 I shall grow old, but never lose life's zest,
 Because the road's last turn will be the best.

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